

## **REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of the application are respectfully requested in view of the amendments and remarks herewith, which place the application into condition for allowance. The present amendment is being made to facilitate prosecution of the application.

### **I. STATUS OF THE CLAIMS AND FORMAL MATTERS**

Claims 1-11 and 14-35 are pending. Claim 36 is added. Claims 1, 6, 16, 22 and 31-36 are independent and are hereby amended. No new matter is added by these amendments. Support for the amended recitations in the claims is found throughout the specification.

Changes to claims are not made for the purpose of patentability within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §101, §102, §103, or §112. Rather, these changes are made simply for clarification and to round out the scope of protection to which Applicant is entitled.

### **II. REPLY TO NOTICE OF NON-COMPLIANT AMENDMENT**

Applicants thank the Examiner for granting the telephone interview on February 21, 2007. Applicants contended their amendment filed November 11, 2006 was compliant under the rules promulgated in the MPEP. The Examiner noted that while the amendment may be compliant with the rules, the Examiner could issue a 35 U.S.C. §112 rejection.

It was agreed that Applicants would respond to the Notice of Non-Compliant amendment by referring to the telephone interview and amend the specification to correct an alleged error in Publ. App. par. [0138].

### **III. AMENDMENT TO THE SPECIFICATION**

Applicants have amended the specification (Publ. Appl. par. [0138]) as noted herein above to correct a typographical error.

### **IV. NEW CLAIM**

Independent claim 36 has been added. Support for this claim is found throughout the specification as originally filed and, for example, in the Publ. App. par. [0037]-[0043] and FIGS. 2 and 4.

### **CONCLUSION**

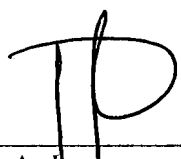
Claims 1-11 and 14- 36 are believed patentable. In the event the Examiner disagrees with any of statements appearing above with respect to the disclosure in the cited reference, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner specifically indicate those portions of the reference, providing the basis for a contrary view.

Please charge any additional fees that may be needed, and credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is believed that all of the claims in this application are patentable and Applicant respectfully requests early passage to issue of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

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